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Message Text

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46
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 MCT-01 AID-05 DHA-02 SY-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W
---------- 110889
R 181300Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2811
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETWON
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 4514

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, JM
SUBJECT: VIOLENCE IN ST ELIZABETH

REF: KINGSTON 4407

1. THE VIOLENCE IN ST ELIZABETH REPORTED BY JAMAICA BROADCASTING CORPORATION(JBC) TELEVISION ON OCTOBER 7 (REFTEL) WAS NOT MENTIONED AGAIN BY THE MEDIA UNTIL OCTOBER 15 WHEN PUBLIC OPINION, WHICH HEWS VERY CLOSELY TO THE RULING PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY(PNP), WROTE THAT THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR ST ELIZABETH SOUTH EAST, DERRICK ROCHERSTER, HAD REQUESTED PROTECTION FOR HIS CONSTITUENCY (SIC) " IN THE WAKE OF ATTACKS MADE ON CITIZENS BY PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE THE AREA." THE PUBLIC OPINION STORY NOTED THAT AMONG THOSE INJURED WAS A MEMBER OF MR. ROCHESTER'S FAMILY AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF PNP SUPPORTERS.

2. COMMENT: WHILE THE PUBLIC OPINION ACCOUNT DOES NOT NAME ANY PERSONS OR GROUPS AS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VIOLENCE, IT DOES STRESS THAT " VERY RECENTLY AN CONFIDENTIAL

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ENTOURAGE OF SOME 12 TRUCKS, VANS AND MINI-BUSES

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ARRIVED IN THE CONSTITUENCY DURING A POLITICAL TOUR";
WE ASSUME THAT THIS REFERS TO WHATEVER JAMAICA LABOUR
PARTY (JLP) WORKERS CAME TO ST ELIZABETH SOUTH
EAST WHEN DAVID COKE WAS NAMED ON OCTOBER T6 TO BE
THE JLP CANIDATE FOR ROCHESTER'S SEAT. BUT THE
ARTICLE DOES CORROBORATE THAT SOLIDERS WERE AIRLIFED
TO THE AREA, ADDING THAT IT WAS AT ROCHESTER'S
REQUEST. THUS, PERHAPS THE CLEAREST THING WHICH
EMERGES FROM THIS RATHER MURKY INCIDENT IS THE
STRENGTH OF THE JLP IN AT LEAST ONE PLACE IN THE
COUNTRYSIDE, THE SILENCE IN THE MEDIA BETWEEN OCT 7 AND
OCTOBER 15 MAY SUGGEST THE PROBLEM WHICH THE MANLEY GOVERMENT
HAD IN DECIDING HOW TO PLAY THE INCIDENT.
DORRANCE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Disposition History: n/a
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PINT, PINS, JM, PNP, (ROCHESTER, DERRICK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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